



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

DECEMBER MEETING: FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT PAST AND PRESENT

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

The presentation at the December meeting is something that has always been important to the radio amateur 'how do I know what frequency I'm on?' The presentation will cover how hams measured frequency from the 1920s up until modern times including the equipment and techniques used.

Our speaker is Dave Hunter, N2EZY. Dave has been an amateur radio operator since 1984 starting at the RIT Amateur Radio Club and is currently a member of Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) and FISTS. His main ham interests are HF CW, SSB and AM along with VHF FM. Dave is also an active member of the AWA as an historian, providing guided tours of the museum. In his "day job," Dave is a Sr. Principal RF System Engineer at Vanteon Corporation doing RF hardware and system design.

This is an interesting topic so I'm sure it will be a great evening, please join us on December 4th 2024, 7:00PM at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online by registering at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1199114630377667422>.



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BOARDZ BUZZ

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

I know there is an article elsewhere in the Rag about our auction last month, but what a great night that was! Many of us went home with exciting treasures, mine included four milk crates (!) full of vintage radio books. A good many of the books went to Goodwill the next day, but I was very pleased to add about a dozen to my library.

We had the benefit of a new Auctioneer, past president Chris Reich, WB2DYJ, and he turned out to be a very seasoned auctioneer! Hopefully we will see him back in future years. Sadly, this was Ed Gable's K2MP's last time as RARA auctioneer. Ed was entertaining as always and will certainly be missed. Thanks, Ed, for your many years as RARA auctioneer!

We are a now couple of months into our new board, and although it is largely the same as last year, we have some changes including a new president. It's a good opportunity to take a fresh look at how the club is run and what we do.

A continuing challenge for us is that our monthly two-hour board meeting can easily get bogged down with detailed discussions. To that end we want to set up some subcommittees that can review and advise on selected issues. An important part of this plan is to involve you, the membership, so these subcommittees should include members as well as representatives from the board. If you feel you could help please contact me. Note none of these committees require members to commit to doing more than they have time or desire to do.

We have already set up a subcommittee to review our financial policies. That includes board members and general members but there is room for one more person if you are interested. The scope is to determine the best use of the funds that we have, to set some goals and provide input to a budget.

Other subcommittees we plan to create are as follows:

Program Committee

Finding a speaker for each of our meetings is not difficult but it is time-consuming. We are looking for volunteers to help the VP (me!) come up with a good and varied program. Help is needed in, e.g. monitoring websites of other clubs to find presentations that might be repeated at a RARA meeting, canvassing members for topics of potential interest or reviewing previous presentations to see if repeats or updates are appropriate. Completely unrelated and new ideas are welcome too, provided they would be of interest to our membership.

IT Support Systems

The systems that support our membership tracking and membership rewards points is old, somewhat unreliable and has limited links to our website. We urgently need to replace it with something that reduces the time spent on admin processes and provides a better service to our members. We are looking for peo-

ple who can advise on a better solution and help us to get there.

Membership Drive

We have a healthy membership but quite a high turnover of newer members. There may also be opportunities to attract new members through a recruitment program. We are looking for individuals who can come up with suggestions and help develop a plan of how we can retain and grow the club's membership.

Finally, on the subject of change, our education program has been in the excellent hands of Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK for the past few years but it is time for us to look for a new leader. Thanks to Karl Heinz for his excellent work and he leaves the education program with a well established set of activities. We are looking to fill this position soon so please let us know if that is something you would like to do. Note the Education Coordinator does not have to provide the education events, it is simply a matter of making sure that things get organized. Karl Heinz will be there to guide the new incumbent and as always the board is there to answer questions. If you can help, please contact myself, or Rich Bishopp, RARA President.

Tim

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY DEC 4, 2024 - RARA Meeting In Person and On line 7:00 PM -
at this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1199114630377667422>

THURSDAY DEC 5, 2024 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 PM - Online

Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

ANNUAL AUCTION RECAP

BRIAN O'CONNOR, KA2CGB, TREASURER

The RARA Annual Auction for 2024 was a great success.

More than 75 members and guests assembled at Scouting headquarters on November 6.

Auctioneers Ed Gable, K2MP, and Chris Reich, WB2DYJ – both previously served as presidents of RARA – set the pace and bidding was lively.



By the end, 60 lots were sold for a total of \$3724, of which \$2110 was for items brought by members.

Winning bids ranged from \$690 for an Icom IC-7300 to \$1 for a Radio Shack 5V power supply.

The largest item sold was a Hustler 5BTV antenna while the smallest was a J-38 CW key. The heaviest item was an Astron RS-50M power supply.

As always, **Members Make It Happen.**

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RARA MEMBERSHIP NEWS

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership currently stands at 386 which is a good number but still far short of the 503 we had at the end of September. That means there are still a number of members who have not yet renewed.

If you are not sure of your membership status please take a moment to go to the [renewal page](#) on our website to check that your membership hasn't lapsed, and if it has done so please renew for this year. The dues are still only \$15 or \$10 if you are an senior member or an Associate (i.e. have not yet got your license) Thanks again to all those who have renewed!

I'd like to give a warm welcome to recent new members:

Stefanie Blackwood
Maureen Kimble
Cynthia Kim
David Eng
David Eng II
David Van Curan
Pete Lutz, KE2CST
Brian Trzaskos, KE2EGM
Dick Wagar, W2RHW

Remember to look out for new members at RARA events and make sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club!



RARA FLDIGI ACADEMY

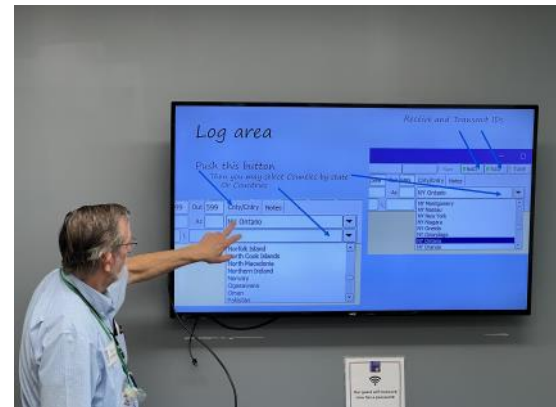
MIKE KENNERKNECHT, N2MAK, DIRECTOR

We had 11 members show up for the first of two RARA Academy classes on fldigi. Short for "fast light digital," fldigi is a free and open-source program used for several amateur radio data modes, such as PSK31, MFSK, RTTY, Olivia, and even CW.

Fldigi is often used for emergency communications to transfer files, send emails, and utilize FEMA ICS forms. Regardless of the application, fldigi makes it possible for amateur radio operators to use just a few watts of power and communicate all over the world.

Paul Conaway (KD2DO) was the instructor for the class, which was held at the Irondequoit Public Library. There will be a second session on Saturday, December 14th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This class will also be at the Irondequoit Public Library in Room #216, 1290 Titus Ave, Rochester, NY 14617.

If you are interested in attending this hands-on session, please email academy@rochesterham.org. You will need to bring your own laptop computer with the required software programs installed. Instruction will be provided in advance on how to download the fldigi and flmsg programs and how to set up their computer's internal sound card for the class.





EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

License Classes

By the time you read this, our Technician and General Fall license classes have finished, the Amateur Extra class still needs a few more weeks to reach that point. We are planning on offering the same classes again starting in January.

New Amateur Extra Question Pool

Since July 1st 2024, all Amateur Extra license exams are now using the new question pool, which means that you need the 13th edition of the ARRL License Manual to study for the test. Make sure you have the correct edition.

License Manuals

All current editions of the license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. At this discount, we unfortunately cannot deliver, and you would have to pick up the manual. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

I usually have some license manuals with me at official RARA events (e.g. the monthly meetings).

RaRa Academy

The second part of our two part FLDigi session is coming up on 12/14. Paul Conaway – KD2DO - will teach us more about the FLDigi family of applications from 10:30am to 12:30pm on December 14th at the Irondquoit Library on Titus Ave in room #216.

Vacancies

We have a few vacancies in the RARA Education Department: We are again

looking for a coordinator for the RARA Academies, and I am planning on retiring from the Education Coordinator position. If you are interested in volunteering for these or any other open RARA volunteer positions, please let us know.

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ

Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ

Elmers' Corner Coordinators

The November Elmers' Corner had some great topics discussed. We are getting great questions and always need those Elmers out there with us to answer those questions – so please put the zoom meeting on your calendar and have a great Saturday morning with us talking all things radio related. These zoom sessions are recorded and are available upon request, so shoot me an email and I will send you a link.

If you are a new ham, or just getting back into the hobby, we are here to help. We've even helped experienced hams with questions. ALL are welcome!

If you want to join us and talk radio, get answers to all of those burning questions you have been holding onto, please join us at our next zoom session, December 7th. The meeting starts at 10am on zoom, the link is below, however, if you would like to get on my reminder email list, send me a quick note at elmerscorner@rochesterham.org. I don't send a lot of emails, just one a month reminding you about the zoom meeting, and I always provide the link so you have it one place.

Sometimes a question may require some background information, just email those questions to us ahead of the meeting so that we can prepare - elmerscorner@rochesterham.org

ELMERS' CORNER

1st Saturday of the month
September – May

Next Zoom Meetings:

December 7th **10AM-12PM**
January 4th

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?
pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667

Passcode: 786545

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (New York)

+13126266799,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kiOoVkCMY>

MORSE CODE TRAINING

Dave Wilson, WA2HOY, RXCWG Coordinator

The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

BEGINNERS MORSE CODE ZOOM CLASSES

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, hosts Morse Code classes on Thursday evenings 7pm.

No experience required. Join the group at any session. Register at:

pfournia@gmail.com

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM AND ON THE AIR

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts Zoom code practice for all levels on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. For On Air schedules contact Tim at tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

RXCWG INTERMEDIATE CW PRACTICE- 7:30pm Thursdays

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?
pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkWWVlORjRLYXljc3pOUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkWWVlORjRLYXljc3pOUT09)

W1AW On The Air CW Practice

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

Meeting ID: 799 6621 2852

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	harryw7872@gmail.com

DECEMBER RAFFLE PRIZES

- ARRL HANDBOOK
- RSGB HANDBOOK
- STOW-IT WRAP TIES
- BONGO TIES
- PORTABLE OPERATING (BOOK)

PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

2024 Pumpkin Patrol

The 2024 Pumpkin Patrol that monitors the 16 Monroe County bridges over the NYS Thruway was held on Monday and Tuesday, October 30 and 31. For this event, we used P25 Trunking Radios belonging to Monroe County, the Zello Push to Talk App, in addition to the Cobbs Hill Amateur Radio Repeaters 146.61 and 444.45 Mhz.

Each night began at 7 PM with a roll call from Net Control (Joe, AD2DB, the first night, and Erin, AA2FO, the second night). Each half-hour after that, until release somewhere between 11 and 11:30 PM, Net Control called the bridges for a status report. During the night, each overpass (bridge) was visited by Goodie Patrol. We were also visited by a member of the NYS Troopers, showing support for our efforts. No evidence of pranks or nefarious activity was observed.



The P25 trunked radios and Zello channel were added to counter the interference that we had experienced in past years. The use of these alternate channels varied, and both performed well, allowing us to conduct the Pumpkin Patrol net efficiently. An added bonus this year was the very unseasonably warm weather for this event.

Thanks to the following Radio Amateurs for your participation, making this year's activity a success!

Erin, AA2FO, Joe, AD2DB, Ed, K1EM, Rich, K2UW, George, K4GWA, Karl Heinz, K5KHK
Mike, KC2NM, Tony, KD2PTJ, Dave, KD2RAF, Lee, KD2TXB, Rich, KD2UBJ, Tom, KD2ZLP
Bob, NS2B, Scott, W2LW, Suzanne, W2SUZ, Cedric, WA2FTV

Upcoming events in the public service calendar are listed in the following table. Visit https://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm for more information and to volunteer.

2024-2025 RARA November List of Public Service Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
Tour de Cure	Stokoe Farms	Saturday	Jun. 7, 2025
MS Roc the Ride Great Lakes	Lakeside State Park	Saturday	Aug. 9, 2025
ILLW	Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse	Saturday / Sunday	Aug. 16, 17, 2025
Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta (Tentative)	Canal, Fairport	Saturday	Sept. 20, 2025
Wilmot Warrior Weekend (Tentative)	Xerox Campus Webster	Sunday	Sept. 21, 2025
Pumpkin Patrol	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Thursday / Friday	Oct. 30, 31, 2025

2024 CHALLENGE TROPHY CAMPOREE

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

RARA provided a Demonstration Amateur Radio station for the Scouting America Challenge Trophy Camporee (CTC) at Camp Cutler on Saturday, October 24, 2024. This was a great opportunity to introduce our hobby to the 1200 participants at the CTC. Camp Cutler is located in Naples, NY. Our station was set up on the back porch of the Cutler Nature Building, situated in the activity midway of the camporee. Earlier this year, we were allowed to raise a permanent OCF Dipole antenna at the Nature Building to facilitate events such as this. Groups of scouts brought a participation card that listed all of the activities available on the midway. For the Ham Radio activity, we told the scouts what Ham Radio is, demonstrated our station, described how to get a Ham Radio license, and gave them a chance to take the microphone and introduce themselves. The scouts also participated in a fox hunt activity, and we invited them to consider earning the Radio Merit Badge. Some years, CTC is held on Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) weekend, allowing the scouts to speak with scouts over the air at other camps.

We had the club FT-450D set up using the permanent OCF dipole antenna. The members of the ECARS net were very accommodating in speaking with the scouts who were willing to take the microphone.

The CQ World-Wide DX Contest was running on 20 and 15 meters, so meaningful QSOs were a challenge to conduct, but we were able to point out the callsigns, show the worldwide reach, and describe the goals of the contest. Thanks to KC2NM, KD2TWM, N2JAC, N2ROC, WA2WPI for participating in this event.

The Challenge Trophy Camporee draws from a wide geographic area with 1200 scouts in attendance this year. Troops came from Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Pennsylvania, and everywhere in between. There were five troops and a Venture crew from Canada. For more information about the Challenge Trophy Camporee, see <https://challengetrophycamporee.org/>



RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

December 2024

December 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Ham Spirit Contest	2 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint	3 Phone Weekly Test QRP Fox Hunt	4 RARA General Meeting 7p ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon QRP QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	5 RARA BoD Mtg 6:30pm ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC FT4 Sprint SKCC Sprint (Europe) Weekly RTTY Test Walk for the Bacon QRP QRP Foxhunt	6 K1USN Speed Test	7 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm ARRL 160M Contest UFT Meeting Wake-up1 QRP Sprint PRO CW Contest FT Roundup / Challenge Kalbar Contest INORC Contest
8 ARRL 160M Contest UFT Meeting Wake-up1 QRP Sprint PRO CW Contest FT Roundup / Challenge Kalbar Contest INORC Contest QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Sprint	9 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	10 Phone Weekly Test QRP Fox Hunt NAQCC CW Sprint	11 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	12 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint QRP Foxhunt	13 K1USN Speed Test	14 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm PODXS 070 Low Band Sprint ARRL 10M Contest TRC Digi Contest SKCC Weekend Sprintathon ARI 40/80 Contest International Naval Contest
15 ARRL 160M Contest UFT Meeting Wake-up1 QRP Sprint PRO CW Contest FT Roundup / Challenge Kalbar Contest INORC Contest	16 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	17 Phone Weekly Test QRP Fox Hunt NAQCC CW Sprint	18 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon QRP	19 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint QRP Foxhunt NTC QSO Party	20 K1USN Speed Test AGB-Party Contest	21 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm RARA Testing at RIT 10am Croatian CW Contest OK DX RTTY Contest Feld Hell Sprint
22 RARA Testing at RIT 10am ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW Croatian CW Contest Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	23 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	24 Phone Weekly Test QRP Fox Hunt	25 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	26 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test DARC Christmas Contest	27 K1USN Speed Test	28 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9pm YB Banggai DX Contest RAC Winter Contest Original QRP Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge
29 Original QRP Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge RAEM Contest K1USN Slow Speed Test	30 WA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB YOTA Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest QCX Challenge	31 Phone Weekly Test QRP Fox Hunt Bogor Old and New Contest				

VE TEAM

Testing takes place on the 3rd Saturday September - April

Testing Location RIT

Rochester Institute of Technology
Building 16 -Schmitt Interfaith Center
43.08402626755475, -77.6734520379509

- Easiest path is from Parking Lot D it can be accessed from West Jefferson Rd via Andrews Memorial Dr or Lowenthal Rd
- From parking lot D walk south up the ramp to the Schmitt Interfaith Center.
- Once inside there is an elevator over to your left or stairs in front of you. Go to the first floor and you will find the **Skalny** room.

Please Note: this room cannot be accessed from the door under the bridge.

Pre-registration is required visit:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson> to find the latest session.

More information is available on the RARA website:

https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

Applicants must supply their own pen, pencil, calculator

Testing begins at 10:00AM.

Also Note: The exam is free however the FCC now charges \$35 for applications. This fee is NOT paid to the VE team. It is paid directly to the FCC. You will receive an email from the FCC when your application is processed. We will also have an information sheet available

Exam Results for November 2024

Name	Class	Call
Dennil O Day	Tech	KB2JQL
Brian J Trzaskos	General	KE2EGM
Nicholas Brandreth	Tech	KE2EKI
Timothy G Chisholm	Tech	KE2EKG
Angela D'Amico	Tech	KE2EKE
Emma R Ferraro	Tech	KE2ELH
Jeffrey Fuller	Tech	KE2ELI
Mario W Gomes	Tech	KE2ELJ
Keith A Green	Tech	KE2EKL
Donna L Jestel	Tech	KE2ELK
Roger B Jestel	Tech	KE2EKP
Ishmael D Martin-Lacayo	Tech	KE2EKQ
Elton Ray	Tech	KE2EKR
David B Rhodes	General	KE2ELN
Michael E Simmons	Tech	KE2EKS
Tyler E Simmons	Tech	KE2EKT

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES News

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. The meeting in November is on the third Thursday to avoid interfering with Thanksgiving. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The meetings are in person at 6:00 PM at the county EOC in even months and at the Red Cross in odd months. They are also available via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the W2ARM 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC. On nights when we hold our regular meeting, the net is at 5:30 PM.

Web: www.monroecountyemcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESNY

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website www.rdxa.com for up-to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.



XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club meets the second Thursday of the month (except July and August). 7PM at the Webster Recreation Center. Zoom meeting info, when available, is sent out to our mailing list. How to subscribe and up-to-date information is always on our website at <http://xarc.us>. We have a System Fusion repeater south of the city on 145.290, and another on 444.825 west of the city that is also D-Star capable. Both are also analog capable with 110.9Hz tone. All are welcome.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung County and the surrounding counties in New York and Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings, which begin at 7 p.m. All monthly meetings are held both in person and on Zoom.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters, both with a PL of 123.0. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters in the Twin Tiers area can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our 6-meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. We welcome participation from RARA members.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Rikki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Our meetings are always the 2nd Wednesday. Dish to pass meal at 6pm with meeting at 7pm. All are welcome.

Don't forget our daily Monday thru Friday 75 meter HF net. Check in at 7:45am starts 8:00 am on 3.896. Always a great way to start your day.

73, Belinda KD2BPJ

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two-meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to
join us on-line &
on-the-air! We're
here to help you to
use the license that
you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our
website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message
to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.205 USB

No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink ka2ene-L #23426

We can help to answer the question, "What radio
should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those
with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands,
giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research
each one to see which serves you best. Ask
questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models,
but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and
70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and
the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports
unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely
and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication.
These are good all-around radios no matter what
club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club and meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. Location, date, and time to be determined. There will not be license testing in December.

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate.

73's

Steve Benton

WB2VMR

Ontario County RACES

Radio Officer

ARES Emergency Coordinator

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The current club officers are Bob Odell, N2BZX - President, Bob Shewell, N2HJD - Vice President, Jay Stewart, W4JPS - Secretary, and Jerry Powell, KC2YSY - Treasurer / Membership Chairman. RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site using PayPal. www.k2rra.org

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

20 Years Ago – November 2004

Opening this issue was Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY, writing to introduce the program for this month. It probably wasn't too difficult for Larry as the program hasn't changed in decades. Yes, it's the RARA Auction time again. This year the auctioneers were Ed Gable K2MP and Dick Goslee (sk) KG2I swinging the gavels at the Henrietta Fire Hall location on East Henrietta Road. The 2004 Auction saw a special twist as RARA arranged to have a complete ham radio Estate Sale from Dave Stewart (sk) K2ZCD. Items included a Henry 2K Amplifier, a Rohn fold over tower with a TA33 yagi, Heath SB series TX and RX and much more.

RARA President Brad Armstrong W1YX, continued his "Prez Says..." column by announcing his appointment of Keith Freeberg (sk) N2BEL to the position of RARA's Public Service Committee Chairman. Brad went on to say how important Keith's position is to foster the already established tradition of RARA providing strong communications support to those organizations in need. The upcoming RARA Auction was supported by Brad as were congratulations to those RARA hands-on folks making the newly established Library Book fund drive so successful. Elsewhere in this issue was published a letter from QST Editor Joel Kleinmann N1BKE, who announced the RARA initiated book fund drive to his world-wide readers. Three black and white photos of the 2003 auction were included.

Next we see your new Public Service Committee Chairman, Keith Freeberg (sk) N2BEL, got right to work with his new "Public Service Report" column, where he reported on the just completed wet and rainy Walk for Diabetes held in Ellison Park. Despite the bad conditions both the walkers and the RARA Volunteers, all 18 of them, made for a successful event. A photo of the "damp 18" was provided.

Peter Fournia W2SKY, stayed home and dry while sharing with us the results of the recently completed Xerox Amateur Radio Club (XARC) Hidden Transmitter event. Peter knew the details of the hunt well as he and Larry Lavery WW2J, were the Hunt Masters for this outing. This, the 2nd hunt put on by XARC this year, started at Harris Hill Park with 14 hunters searching for the hidden two meter FM transmitter. First to find the transmitter was Jon Dickarson K2JAC, and non-ham friend Rob Scott. Brian Donovan K2AS, won 2nd. The RIT Team led by Dave Shaw KB2URD, took third place. Readers found an announcement published by Cheryl Joyce AB2NU, telling of the next RARA Amateur Radio Testing session to be held on November 20, 2004. The testing facility at that time was on the RIT Campus, Bldg 76, Room 2150.

Jim Ditucci N2IXD, also published a then popular and much needed event put on by the Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA) called the Annual Tune-up Clinic. I say "much needed" as this was the day when many hams on

VHF/UHF FM were using converted commercial two-way radios and lacked the proper test equipment to set frequencies, align receiver front ends, set deviations levels, etc. The RRRA came to the rescue by setting up periodic Tune-up Clinics, usually at a Club meeting, where proper test equipment was set up and used to align member owned equipment by a cadre' of experts in the field. It was a very nice service, provided free of charge, but made obsolete with the advent of a market now filled with out of the box VHF/UHF equipment ready to Plug N' Play.

A noted guest contributor to this Rag was Ross Mazzola KC2LOC, who wrote to detail ham-radio repeater operation in our area. In doing so he reported on two very active local repeater groups in our area, the Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA) and the Genesee Repeater Association (GRA). Ross' article focused on repeater frequencies, annual cost of operating repeaters and how you can join and support either or both of these fine groups.

There were no Silent Keys listed in this issue. You could buy a Kenwood TS-520 with CW filter from Irv Goodman AF2K, for \$250.00, from the Want Ads. Marykay Vescoe KC2DPG, an Independent Broker of Health Insurance products, remained a long-time commercial advertiser.



the **RARA RAG**

Published by

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 57

NOVEMBER 2004

NO.3

AUCTION TIME

Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

Circle November 5 on your calendar! Break your bank and bring all your dimes, quarters and dollars. This meeting is the Annual RaRa Auction. Gather the rigs and accessories you no longer use and turn them into cash. Bid on treasures and pick up some bargains. Trust me, I am not exaggerating. Last year we witnessed some great buys. For example, there was a Collins 30L-1 linear amp that had been recently serviced and brought to specs. It sold for only \$200 – less than the cost of its new tubes! A Vibroplex bug in pristine condition went for a bargain price, too low to publish in print. And there were some fine classics in fabulous shape, including a Hammarlund HQ-140-XA, a complete Knight Kit station (T150, R100, and accessories), and a Heathkit transceiver with a power supply and scope, all which had sold for a few rubles. Folks found deals on coax, antennas, computer

CONTINUED AUCTION PAGE 3

RaRa

MEETING

NOVEMBER 5, 2004

7:30 PM

(DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM)

HENRIETTA FIRE HALL

3129 E. HENRIETTA RD.

ANNUAL AUCTION

AUCTIONEERS:

Ed Gable, K2MP

Dick Goslee KG2I

(members may bring a guest)

ARLB030 FCC Adopts New BPL Rules

ZCZC AG30

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 30 ARLB030

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT October 15, 2004

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB030

ARLB030 FCC Adopts New BPL Rules

Meeting October 14 in open session, the FCC adopted revised Part 15 (unlicensed services) rules to specifically regulate broadband over power line (BPL) systems. Specifics of the new rules in a Report and Order in ET Docket 04-37 won't be known for a few weeks. In comments before voting, three members of the Commission, including Chairman Michael K. Powell, specifically mentioned the concerns of Amateur Radio operators and expressed either assurances or hope that the new BPL rules will adequately address interference to licensed services. Republican FCC Commissioner Kevin Martin addressed Amateur Radio's and broadcasters' interference concerns in his written statement. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was encouraged to see the Commission acknowledge interference to Amateur Radio as a genuine issue in the BPL proceeding.

"What the League has done in the last year and a half on this issue showed in the Commission's public meeting today," Haynie said. He cited the FCC's approval of three major points that the League had been pushing for: Certification of BPL equipment instead of verification, a requirement for a public BPL database--something the BPL industry did not want--and mechanisms to deal swiftly with interference complaints.

CONTINUED BPL PAGE 4

This was a short issue with only four local RARA contributors of local ham news, the rest being fill copy from other Amateur Radio newsletters. When local news was inserted by local authors it was often the practice to not publish their name and callsign. That's too bad as today, forty years later, it would be nice to recognize those active supporters who made RARA flourish and grow into the superb organization it is today.

The next program coming up in November was the annual RARA Auction featuring sales of member owned used ham equipment; receivers, transmitters, antennas, microphones and other accessories. The auctioneers of the evening were Ed Gable K2MP and Ron Jakubowski K2RJ. The venue at that time was the Police and Fire Academy on Scottsville Road.

Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, was a busy and active ham back then not only in RARA but also with the Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA) where he was the long time Technical Director. Here Ron was helpful in the formation of the RRRA FM Clinic to be held on November 16th at the Pittsford Town Hall.

RARA President Ray Roberts (sk) WA2SSU, in his monthly "President's Corner." Wrote a plea to all members to get out and do whatever they can to increase this year's current membership level from 800 to 1000 paid members.

RARA's monthly Amateur Radio License Testing program, reported by RARA's Volunteer Examiner Coordinator John Schooley (sk) K2NC, reveals that testing for November is in place for all license classes including thirteen and twenty word per minute Morse code testing and using the Metroplex VEC. The venue was 111 Westfall Road.

Reporting on current DX news was slim in those days by the Rochester DX Association (RDXA). As new DX entities were newsworthy and popping up all over the globe, your Rag Editor Ron Jakubowski K2RJ (remember him ?) thought it prudent to publish, one time, the work of W2FGY, the DX Editor of the South Jersey Radio Association, and inform local DX'ers of nice DX such as CE0A, ZA/OH2BH, 9U5 and XU1.

With regret it was reported that Vincent Lapp W2FN, was reported a Silent Key. From the Want Ads you could buy a complete Ten-Tec 544 Digital transceiver with CW filter and noise blanker, for \$320.00, from Jim W2PZN. A returning commercial advertiser was Radio World of Oriskany, NY featuring Kenwood, Yaesu, Icom, Drake and other Amateur Radio products.



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NOVEMBER 1984

NO. 3

PACKET AT THE BUFFALO HAM-O-RAMA

I just returned from the Buffalo Ham-O-Rama, a large swap meet and convention hosted by several radio clubs in Buffalo, NY and neighboring Ontario. Packet radio was very well represented, both on the technical presentation schedule, and in the indoor display area.

On Saturday morning, I gave a well-attended "Introduction to Digital Communications." I finished the talk with a short discussion of packet radio, and several people in the audience requested more information on packet. Later in the afternoon, Gil Boelke, W2EUP, from GLB electronics, held an in-depth packet-radio seminar and demonstration. It looked like about seventy people attended Gil's talk.

At the GLB booth, a couple of GLB PK1 TNCs were on-the-air. Both of the TNCs were connected to computers running GLB's CP/K program. This is a CP/M program that makes it easy to control the PK1. CP/K provides a menu of commands for the PK1, and also facilitates remote operation of CP/M computers attached to PK1 TNCs. If you have a PK1, contact GLB to find out more about the CP/K software.

In the booth next to GLB's was Bob Richardson, W4UCH, from Richcraft Engineering. Richcraft markets TNC software that runs on Radio Shack computers. (Watch for an upcoming QST article by Bob explaining his "software approach" to packet radio.) A program demonstrating Richcraft software and explaining packet radio was running on a TRS-80 at the Richcraft booth.

The number of people at the talks on digital communications and at the two packet-radio booths made it clear that more and more amateur radio operators are becoming interested in packet radio.

via GATEWAY

SILENT KEY

W2FN – Vincent J. Lapp
October 6, 1984

RaRa AUCTION NOVEMBER 2nd AT POLICE AND FIRE ACADEMY

Well, it's that time of year again – the first freezing rain or snow of the year always seems to fall on the night of the auction. Will this year be any different?

Divide your excess equipment into the goodies and the junk. Leave the junk at your curbside and bring the goodies to the Police and Fire Academy on Scottsville Road (next to the Burger King) on Friday, November 2nd. Doors will be open at 7 p.m. and the auction will start promptly at 8 p.m.

The auction is open to all RaRa members and a guest. Sellers will pay 10% of the sale price to the club. Club memberships may be obtained at the door.

ALL ITEMS must be marked with the seller's name, a brief description of the item and its conditions, and a starting bid. Be sure to make the starting bid attractive – there will be no chinese bidding this year – in order to try to keep the length of the auction reasonable.

The sale will be conducted on a first in-first auctioned basis. All items will be placed on the tables in the order in which they are received so that this procedure can be followed.

Your auctioneers again this year will be Smiling Ed Gable, K2MP, and Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ.

RRRA FM CLINIC NOVEMBER 16th

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, Inc. will hold its annual FM clinic at the Pittsford Town Hall, 8 p.m., on Friday, November 16. Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ, RRRA Technical Director will head-up the committee offering their services to check-out and perform *minor* tuning and adjustment on FM transceivers. *No basket-cases please!*

The RC-850 Controller fund is growing, and if you have not yet contributed, please consider doing so! We have spent very little money on the repeater over the past 10 years or so, but have depended on items built and scrounged for the most part.

RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

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David Duckles: rocmakers@gmail.com

JANUARY RAG DEADLINE

DECEMBER 15, 2024

RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST

WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

JOIN US IN PERSON

OR

ONLINE AT:

[https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/
register/1199114630377667422](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1199114630377667422)

CONTACT WEBMASTER@ROCHESTERHAM.ORG FOR SUPPORT

Rochester Area Repeater Listing

THE RARA RAG

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